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DATE: July 30, 2003

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Attached hereto is the interview agenda for the telephonic interview to be conducted on July 30, 2003 with Examiner Sana A Al Hashemi.

Thank you.

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PATENT

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-1351 / 158486.1
Application No.: 09/682,040
Office Action Dated: June 24, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Raman Chandrasekar, et al.

Confirmation No.: 6976

Application No.: 09/682,040

Group Art Unit: 2171

Filing Date: July 12, 2001

Examiner: Al Hashemi, Sana A

For: **System and Method for Query Refinement to Enable Improved Searching
Based on Identifying and Utilizing Popular Concepts Relocated to User's
Queries**

In a telephonic interview to be conducted on July 30, 2003, Applicants propose to discuss the following topic:

1. The 102(e) rejection of independent claims 1, 9, and 28. The reference cited by the Examiner, US patent No 6,282,538 issued to Woods et al. teaches *phrase* matching in which a *phrase* in a query is matched to similar *phrases* in a document.. By contrast, independent claims 1, 9, and 28 recite the limitation of, "mapping [a] query to one or more search *concepts*." The reference does not teach matching a query phrase to a *concept*. Applicants believe that an interview is the best setting in which to explain the difference between the Woods reference and the claimed invention.